



## Referral of proposed action

**Project title:** Toodyay Road Widening SLK 12.71 to SLK 40.14

### 1 Summary of proposed action

#### 1.1 Short description

Main Roads Wheatbelt Region is planning to widen and upgrade Toodyay Road in the Shire of Toodyay, between SLK 12.71 and SLK 40.14. This project will involve the widening of the road, potential bridge upgrades, three passing lanes, culvert extensions, five intersection upgrades and realignment from SLK 27 to SLK 29 to improve road geometry and safety.

1.2	<b>Coordinates</b>	-31.60566, 116.44976
	-31.70642, 116.29853	-31.60281, 116.45044
	-31.70420, 116.30557	-31.60449, 116.45053
	-31.70327, 116.31432	-31.60566, 116.45044
	-31.68099, 116.32839	-31.60639, 116.45216
	-31.67800, 116.33758	-31.60741, 116.45242
	-31.67595, 116.35062	-31.60646, 116.45285
	-31.66704, 116.36084	-31.60807, 116.45988
	-31.65345, 116.37208	-31.60749, 116.46503
	-31.64337, 116.37697	-31.60624, 116.46770
	-31.64081, 116.38298	-31.60661, 116.46838
	-31.63848, 116.39019	-31.60566, 116.46795
	-31.63789, 116.39620	-31.60449, 116.47010
	-31.62123, 116.40598	-31.60179, 116.47345
	-31.61904, 116.40598	-31.59871, 116.47568
	-31.62079, 116.40684	-31.59586, 116.47628
	-31.61735, 116.41594	-31.58651, 116.47576
	-31.61450, 116.42015	-31.58066, 116.47911
	-31.61428, 116.42821	-31.57488, 116.48091
	-31.61114, 116.43293	-31.57049, 116.47997
	-31.60800, 116.43637	-31.56669, 116.47757
	-31.60639, 116.44220	-31.56289, 116.47593
		-31.55791, 116.47611

#### 1.3 Locality and property description

The project is located on road reserve and farmland on Toodyay Road in the Shire of Toodyay.

1.4	<b>Size of the development footprint or work area (hectares)</b>	The project area is 120 ha in size, of which 58 ha is clearing of native vegetation.
1.5	<b>Street address of the site</b>	Toodyay Road
1.6	<b>Lot description</b>	n/a

1.7 **Local Government Area and Council contact (if known)**

Shire of Toodyay  
15 Fiennes Street  
PO Box 96  
Toodyay WA 6566  
Phone: (08) 9574 2258

1.8 **Time frame**

The project is expected to begin construction in 2016/2017.

1.9 **Alternatives to proposed action**

☒

No

Yes, you must also complete section 2.2

1.10 **Alternative time frames etc**

☒

No

Yes, you must also complete Section 2.3. For each alternative, location, time frame, or activity identified, you must also complete details in Sections 1.2-1.9, 2.4-2.7 and 3.3 (where relevant).

1.11 **State assessment**

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No

☒

Yes, you must also complete Section 2.5

1.12 **Component of larger action**

☒

No

Yes, you must also complete Section 2.7

1.13 **Related actions/proposals**

☒

No

Yes, provide details:

1.14 **Australian Government funding**

☒

No

Yes, provide details: State funded

1.15 **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park**

☒

No

Yes, you must also complete Section 3.1 (h), 3.2 (e)

## 2 Detailed description of proposed action

### 2.1 Description of proposed action

Main Roads Wheatbelt Region is planning to widen and upgrade Toodyay Road in the Shire of Toodyay, between SLK 12.71 and SLK 40.14. This project will involve:

- Widening of the road between SLK 12.71 and SLK 40.14
- Bridge upgrades (upgrade or replacement subject to final design)
- Three passing lanes west bound SLK 26.50 to SLK 24.70, east bound SLK 30.93 to SLK 33.01 and west bound SLK 34.03 to 31.58.
- Culvert extensions between SLK 12.71 and SLK 40.14
- Five intersection upgrades
- Realignment from SLK 27 to SLK 29 to improve road geometry and safety.

### 2.2 Alternatives to taking the proposed action

No alternatives are proposed.

### 2.3 Alternative locations, time frames or activities that form part of the referred action

No alternative timeframes or activities are proposed.

### 2.4 Context, planning framework and state/local government requirements

The project is expected to be a Controlled Action and therefore require assessment by the WA Department of Environment Regulation under the Bilateral Agreement. An impact assessment will be completed for the project and referred to the Department of Environment Regulation for assessment.

A Bed and Banks Permit will be obtained under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*. The project will also obtain a Section 18 approval to disturb registered heritage sites, under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*.

### 2.5 Environmental impact assessments under Commonwealth, state or territory legislation

As above.

### 2.6 Public consultation (including with Indigenous stakeholders)

Indigenous stakeholders have been consulted as part of the Section 18 approvals for the project under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*. An ethnographic survey will be undertaken with the Whadjuk and Ballardong peoples in February and March 2016.

In addition, comment on the project has been invited from the Department of Water, Shire of Toodyay, Conservation Commission of WA and the Soil and Land Conservation Commission.

### 2.7 A staged development or component of a larger project

Not applicable.

## 3 Description of environment & likely impacts

### 3.1 Matters of national environmental significance

#### 3.1 (a) World Heritage Properties

##### Description

No World Heritage Properties will be impacted by this project.

##### Nature and extent of likely impact

No impacts expected.

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#### 3.1 (b) National Heritage Places

##### Description

No National Heritage Properties will be impacted by this project.

##### Nature and extent of likely impact

No impacts expected.

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#### 3.1 (c) Wetlands of International Importance (declared Ramsar wetlands)

##### Description

No Wetlands of International Importance will be impacted by this project.

##### Nature and extent of likely impact

No impacts expected.

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#### 3.1 (d) Listed threatened species and ecological communities

### **Description**

A biological assessment was undertaken in spring 2015 by AECOM Pty Ltd, including an assessment of significant trees and Threatened and Priority flora species and ecological communities. The project design has been modified to reduce environmental impacts as far as practicable. It is worth noting that the survey was conducted over a very large area, the project area is significantly smaller.

Two species of National Environmental Significance were identified in the project area:

- Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) (Endangered)
- Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*) (Vulnerable)

Baudin's Black Cockatoo was not recorded during the field survey. Differentiating between Baudin's Black Cockatoo and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo can be difficult in the field. Baudin's Black Cockatoo has been recorded a total of 54 times within seven kilometres of the survey area (AECOM, 2016). As this species is common in the local area, it is likely that some of the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo records may have been Baudin's Black Cockatoo. Baudin's Black Cockatoo remains likely to occur within the project area.

Based on the desktop assessment, the Vulnerable Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*) was also considered likely to occur.

The project is not expected to impact the new Critically Endangered Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) *Woodlands of the Wheatbelt*. The project is located predominantly in the Jarrah Forrest region, with a small section of Avon Wheatbelt vegetation to the north near Toodyay township. Vegetation in this area is highly modified and in Degraded condition and not considered representative of the TEC (see Biological Report).

### **Nature and extent of likely impact**

The project is located within the known breeding range of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), and one breeding Carnaby's Black Cockatoo pair was observed in a hollow within the survey area. The project has been designed to avoid this hollow.

Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*) was also recorded in the project area.

There is an estimated 15 ha of Good or better quality Black Cockatoo foraging habitat within the project area. A total of 7,265 potential breeding habitat trees were recorded during the AECOM survey, of which up to 1330 are within the project clearing area and expected to be removed. 440 trees with hollows were recorded during the survey and approximately 100 of these are expected to be cleared.

The Chuditch currently only occurs in areas dominated by sclerophyll forest or drier woodland, heath and mallee shrubland (Van Dyck & Strahan, 2008). The majority of records are found in the contiguous Jarrah forests of south-western Australia (DotE, 2015). The species is known to exist in the local area from four records within seven kilometres of the survey area, the most recent in 2009 (AECOM, 2016). This species may occur in the Eucalypt woodlands of the project area. Up to 30 ha suitable for this species is expected to be impacted by the project.

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### 3.1 (e) Listed migratory species

#### Description

One migratory species was recorded in the project area Rainbow Bee-eater (*Merops ornatus*). Three migratory species were also considered likely to occur:

- Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)
- Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*)
- Eastern Great Egret (*Ardea modesta*)

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

The Rainbow Bee-eater was recorded flying over the Project area at four locations. The Rainbow Bee-eater is a common species which occupies numerous habitats including open woodlands with sandy loamy soil, sand ridges, sandpits, riverbanks, road cuttings, beaches, dunes, cliffs, mangroves and rainforests. The Rainbow Bee-eater avoids heavy forest that would hinder its pursuit of its insect prey (Morcombe, 2003). The Rainbow Bee-eater is a widespread species found all over Australia that has been previously recorded in the area (DPaW, 2015). This species can be expected to occur throughout the majority of the project area, utilising sandy/loamy soils for breeding and elsewhere for feeding on insects. Significant impacts are not expected as the project area is not critical habitat for this migratory species.

The Common Sandpiper is widespread throughout Australia, with few important sites on the continent. These birds visit Australia during the non-breeding season (July to February). Preferred habitat is coastal wetlands with muddy margins or rocky shores but it has also been recorded in inland wetlands and dams (DotE, 2015). The Common Sandpiper has been recorded nine times within seven kilometres of the survey area, most recently in 2011 (AECOM, 2016). This species may be expected to occur sporadically within the project area in the river and wetland habitats. Impacts are not expected to be significant.

The Fork-tailed Swift is a regular summer migrant to Australia, arriving in October and leaving by mid-April. It is generally observed flying high overhead, over open country, semi-arid deserts to coasts and forests (Pizzey & Knight, 2007). The Fork-tailed Swift was last recorded in 2000 within seven kilometres of the survey area (AECOM, 2016). This species was not observed during the field survey and is unlikely to be supported by any of the habitats within the project area.

The Great Egret occupies a wide variety of wet habitats including freshwater wetlands, dams, flooded pastures, estuarine mudflats, mangroves and reefs (Morcombe, 2003). The species is also known to visit shallows of rivers, sewage ponds and irrigation areas (Pizzey & Knight, 2007). Based on numerous recent records from 2013 within seven kilometres of the survey area (AECOM, 2016), it is likely to occur sporadically in the river and wetland habitats of the project area. Impacts are not expected to be significant.

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### 3.1 (f) Commonwealth marine area

(If the action is in the Commonwealth marine area, complete 3.2(c) instead. This section is for actions taken outside the Commonwealth marine area that may have impacts on that area.)

#### Description

No Commonwealth Marine Areas will be impacted by this project.

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

No Impacts expected.

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### 3.1 (g) Commonwealth land

(If the action is on Commonwealth land, complete 3.2(d) instead. This section is for actions taken outside Commonwealth land that may have impacts on that land.)

#### Description

No Commonwealth land will be impacted by this project.

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

No Impacts expected.

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### 3.1 (h) The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

#### Description

The project will not impact the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

No impacts.

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### 3.1 (i) A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development

#### Description

The project is not a coal seam gas development.

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

No impacts.

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## 3.2 Nuclear actions, actions taken by the Commonwealth (or Commonwealth agency), actions taken in a Commonwealth marine area, actions taken on Commonwealth land, or actions taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

3.2 (a)	Is the proposed action a nuclear action?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)

If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment

3.2 (b)	Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)

If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment

3.2 (c)	Is the proposed action to be taken in a Commonwealth marine area?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)

If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(f))

3.2 (d)	Is the proposed action to be taken on Commonwealth land?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(g))			
3.2 (e)	Is the proposed action to be taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(h))			

### 3.3 Other important features of the environment

#### 3.3 (a) Flora and fauna

##### Flora

A total of 328 native vascular flora species were recorded within the survey area, representing 147 genera and 51 families. The most abundant families included Fabaceae (pea family) with 57 species, Proteaceae with 30 species and Myrtaceae with 28 species.

Seven State-listed Priority flora were identified in the study area, of which two were recorded within the project area, *Grevillea candolleana* (Priority 2) and *Hibbertia montana* (Priority 4). Population counts for these species are currently being conducted by AECOM, so that the impact assessment can include the exact number of *Grevillea candolleana* and *Hibbertia montana* that will be removed for the project.

##### Fauna

The project is located within the known breeding range of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) (Endangered under the WC Act), and one breeding Carnaby's Black Cockatoo pair was observed in a hollow within the survey area. The project has been designed to avoid this hollow.

Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*) (Vulnerable under the WC Act) was also recorded in the project area.

There is an estimated 15 ha of Good or better quality Black Cockatoo foraging habitat within the project area. A total of 7,265 potential breeding habitat trees were recorded during the field assessment, of which up to 1330 are within the project clearing area and expected to be removed. 440 trees with hollows were recorded during the field assessment and approximately 100 of these are expected to be cleared.

There is also the potential for the project to impact five other species that were not recorded during the survey:

- Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroi*) – Vulnerable under both EPBC Act and WC Act
- Western Brush Wallaby (*Macropus irma*) - Priority 4
- Western Carpet Python (*Morelia spilota imbricata*) – Schedule
- Blue-billed Duck (*Oxyura australis*) - Priority 4
- Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) - Schedule.

The Chuditch currently only occurs in areas dominated by sclerophyll forest or drier woodland, heath and mallee shrubland (Van Dyck & Strahan, 2008). The majority of records are found in the contiguous Jarrah forests of south-western Australia (DotE, 2015). The species is known to exist in the local area from four records within seven kilometres of the survey area, the most recent in 2009 (AECOM, 2016).



This species may occur in the Eucalypt woodlands of the project area. Up to 30 ha of native vegetation suitable for this species is expected to be impacted by the project.

The Western Brush-wallaby is a Priority 4 species and only occurs in the south-west of Western Australia. Preferred habitat consists of open sclerophyll forest or woodland and favours open flats over scrub thickets. It is also found in larger areas of mallee and heathland in the wheat belt and is uncommon in wet sclerophyll forest (Van Dyck & Strahan, 2008). It has been recorded as recently as 2010 in the local area, with a total of six records within seven kilometres of the survey area (AECOM, 2016). It is likely to occur within the project area in Eucalypt woodlands and paddocks of the project area. Up to 30 ha of suitable native vegetation may be cleared for the project.

The Western Carpet Python is found in a diverse range of habitats including Banksia woodland, Eucalypt woodland and grasslands. It has been recorded twice within seven kilometres of the survey area, most recently in 2013 (AECOM, 2016). This species may occur in most vegetated parts of the project.

The Blue-billed Duck is endemic to south-eastern and south-western Australia. It prefers deep water in large permanent wetlands and swamps with aquatic vegetation. This species of duck is fully aquatic and rarely comes onto land. This species has been recorded within seven kilometres of the survey area four times, most recently in 2012 (DPaW, 2015). Based on habitat in the project area it is considered unlikely to be impacted.

The Peregrine Falcon occurs across much of mainland Australia occupying diverse habitats, from rainforest to arid scrubland. It relies on abundant prey, secure nest sites and a lack of human interference (Pizzey & Knight, 2007). This species was not recorded during the survey; however it still may be an infrequent visitor to the area.

### **3.3 (b) Hydrology, including water flows**

The project will cross 6 tributaries of the Swan River, and bridge upgrades are currently being considered as part of these works. A Bed and Banks permit under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* will be obtained prior to works, as well as a Section 18 approval under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*, as many of the waterways are also Registered heritage sites. The waterways along the project are highly altered by road, rail and farm practices with little native vegetation remaining.

### 3.3 (c) Soil and Vegetation characteristics

Soils in the survey area varied and included gravel, sand, sandy loamy gravel, red-brown sandy loam and sandy clay.

The project area is mapped as having low to no known risk of Acid Sulphate Soils (DER, 2006).

High species diversity was expected as the long linear corridor of the project area traverses two IBRA regions (Jarrah Forrest and Avon Wheatbelt) and is located within the northern extent of the Northern Jarrah Forrest Region. This means that unique compositions of vegetation occur as the vegetation grades into Avon Wheatbelt and Lesueur Sandplain.

A total of 20 vegetation communities were recorded and mapped within the survey area. This included:

- eight wetland communities
- seven eucalypt woodlands
- one heath community
- four disturbed communities.

Five of the vegetation communities identified are considered significant vegetation communities according to Guidance Statement 51 (EPA, 2004a) due to the presence of priority flora.

Most of the vegetation in the project area was recorded as Degraded (Keighery, 1994) with areas of better quality vegetation (see biological assessment).

### 3.3 (d) Outstanding natural features

No outstanding natural features were identified.

### 3.3 (e) Remnant native vegetation

The project occurs across four pre-European vegetation communities, of which two are listed as having less than 30% remaining. Clearing in these communities is considered significant.

Vegetation Community	Description	IBRA Region % remaining	State % Remaining
1006 Jarrah Forest	Medium woodland; Jarrah, Wandoo & Powderbark.	48.57	48.57
3003 Jarrah Forrest	Medium forest; Jarrah & Marri on laterite with Wandoo in valleys, sandy swamps with teatree and Banksia.	58.95	58.95
4 Jarrah Forrest	Medium woodland; Marri & Wandoo.	28.05	27.88
352 Avon Wheatbelt	Medium woodland; York gum.	17.35	19.71

### 3.3 (f) Gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area)

The project is located on an undulating landscape, with flatter areas to the west and hills closer to Toodyay.

**3.3 (g) Current state of the environment**

The vegetation in the project area is mainly Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition but had areas of better quality. In total, 38 introduced weed species were recorded within the survey area. The project area is a mixture of paddock, native remnant vegetation and already cleared areas with some isolated scattered trees and roadside revegetation.

**3.3 (h) Commonwealth Heritage Places or other places recognised as having heritage values**

No Commonwealth heritage places will be impacted by the project, the nearest place is 24 km north-west of Toodyay township.

**3.3 (i) Indigenous heritage values**

Two Registered Aboriginal heritage sites will be impacted by the project, and 3 Lodged sites. Consultation with the Aboriginal people from both the Ballardong and Whadjuk groups has been undertaken for this project and a Section 18 approval will be sought.

**3.3 (j) Other important or unique values of the environment**

The project may impact on Morangup Reserve, a Class A Nature Reserve. The project is currently being revised to see if impacts to the reserve can be avoided. If not, the project will require the acquisition and clearing of approximately 1 ha for the movement of construction machinery and maintenance of safe clearance zones for the road. The acquisition of land along the reserve will take approximately 2 years and is considered a secondary option.

**3.3 (k) Tenure of the action area (eg freehold, leasehold)**

All land will be in road reservation before construction is undertaken.

**3.3 (l) Existing land/marine uses of area**

Existing land uses include road reserve and farm land.

**3.3 (m) Any proposed land/marine uses of area**

n/a

## 4 Environmental outcomes

The project is expected to be assessed under the Bilateral Agreement between DotE and DER. Outcomes and conditions will be set at part of the Offset Proposal. Outcomes will include:

- Clearing of no more than 15 ha of Good or better quality Black Cockatoo habitat within the project area.
- Clearing of no more than 1330 Black Cockatoo potential future breeding trees.
- Removal of no more than 100 hollow bearing trees suitable for Black Cockatoos as per the referral guidelines.
- Up to 30 ha suitable for this Chuditch.
- No clearing outside the approved clearing area.

## 5 Measures to avoid or reduce impacts

The following mitigation measures have been implemented during the project design phase to avoid and/or reduce environmental impacts, including those on Black Cockatoos.

### 4.1 Design Phase Mitigation Measures

The following design phase elements have been implemented to minimise the environmental impact of the project.

#### Refinement of Clearing Area

Main Roads has modified the original design to avoid and minimise clearing impacts to that required to implement this road safety project. Due to the project involving widening of the existing road no other alternatives to further reduce the clearing footprint are possible.

#### Fauna Sensitive Design Elements

Main Roads will install warning signs at two points to alert drivers to the potential presence of Black Cockatoos within the project area.

#### Drainage Design

Main Roads has designed roadside and cross road drainage to maintain the existing local surface water hydrology.

### 4.2 Construction Phase Mitigation and Management Measures

The following management measures will be implemented during the construction phase to avoid, reduce or manage impacts on Black Cockatoo species.

#### Education and Induction

Mandatory site inductions and pre-start toolbox meetings for all site personnel will include education regarding Black Cockatoo and Chuditch management to avoid impacts as far as possible through awareness and behaviour change.

#### Definition of Disturbance Footprint

A key strategy to avoid impacts to native vegetation, fauna and habitat during the construction phase is to clearly define the extent of Project clearing. Management measures will include:

- Clearly defining the extent of the clearing footprint by the use of flagging tape
- Checking the clearing line against the project design
- Identifying and conserving significant trees (DBH>500mm) within the clearing footprint where retaining the tree does not compromise road safety.

### **Minimise Clearing Disturbance**

Restrict construction personnel to the disturbance footprint including designated access routes and parking areas. No clearing will be conducted for temporary site infrastructure including offices or laydown areas.

### **Project Timing**

Clearing of potential Black Cockatoo habitat will be timed to occur outside of the breeding season (late July – late December) where possible. If not possible, pre-clearing fauna inspections will be undertaken to determine if any chicks are in hollow bearing trees. If identified the chicks may be relocated to an animal sanctuary for hand rearing, or the project construction plan will be modified to avoid impacts to trees in use until the chicks have fledged.

### **Fauna Management During Clearing Operations**

Fauna impacts will be managed during physical clearing works through the following actions:

- Fauna encountered during the clearing operation shall be encouraged to move on if there is no threat to the animal or site person's safety in doing so
- Any fauna injured during clearing operations shall be taken to a local vet or an approved wildlife carer identified through DPaW or the Wildcare Helpline on 9474 9055
- Traffic management to either halt, or reduce the speed of through traffic will be in place during clearing activities, and
- No pets or firearms shall be permitted on site.

### **Dieback Management**

Main Roads will prepare a Dieback Management Plan for the project.

## 6 Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

### 6.1 Do you THINK your proposed action is a controlled action?

- |                                     |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | No, complete section 5.2  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes, complete section 5.3 |

### 6.2 Proposed action IS NOT a controlled action.

### 6.3 Proposed action IS a controlled action

#### Matters likely to be impacted

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | World Heritage values (sections 12 and 15A)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Heritage places (sections 15B and 15C)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Protection of the environment from nuclear actions (sections 21 and 22A)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Commonwealth marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (sections 24B and 24C)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development (sections 24D and 24E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land (sections 26 and 27A)                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions (section 28)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Commonwealth Heritage places overseas (sections 27B and 27C)  |

The project is considered to be a controlled action due to clearing of vegetation suitable for foraging and breeding for Black Cockatoos.

## 7 Environmental record of the responsible party

	Yes	No
<p><b>6.1 Does the party taking the action have a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management?</b></p> <p><b>Provide details</b></p> <p>Main Roads are a State agency and have a sound record of responsible environmental management and environmental management systems. Main Roads seeks to achieve balanced and sustainable outcomes for the community with responsible environmental stewardship in developing and maintaining the road network critical to its success. Main Roads is committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protecting and enhancing the environmental values of road reserves</li> <li>• Minimising the impact on the natural environment of roads and road use</li> <li>• Conserving natural resources and minimising energy consumption and waste.</li> </ul> <p>A corporate Environmental Management System facilitates management of environmental risks and performance improvement. The independently certified and audited system is integrated into all key processes including planning, delivery, maintenance, network operations and supporting services.</p> <p>Main Roads holds Certificate No. EMS 530437 and operates an Environmental Management System which complies with the requirements of ISO 14001:2004 for the following scope: Main Roads Total Management System comprising Planning, Delivery, Maintenance, Network Operations and Supporting Services. Officially registered since 14 July 2005 under Certificate 149459.</p>	X	
<p><b>6.2 Has either (a) the party proposing to take the action, or (b) if a permit has been applied for in relation to the action, the person making the application - ever been subject to any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources?</b></p> <p><b>If yes, provide details</b></p>		X
<p><b>6.3 If the party taking the action is a corporation, will the action be taken in accordance with the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework?</b></p>	X	

**If yes, provide details of environmental policy and planning framework**

Main Roads operates under an Environment Policy and Sustainability Policy, as well as an Environmental Assessment and Approvals Guideline. Main Roads also has an ISO 14001 accredited Environmental Management System.  
Main Roads Environmental Policy Statement (2004):

Main Roads manages the State's road network to provide safe and efficient road access that will enhance community lifestyles and support economic prosperity. Main Roads seeks to achieve balanced and sustainable outcomes for the community. Responsible environmental stewardship in developing and maintaining the road network is critical to the success of Main Roads.

Principles

Main Roads is committed to:

- Protecting and enhancing the environmental values of road reserves;
- Minimising the impact on the natural environment of roads and road use; and
- Conserving natural resources and minimising energy consumption and waste.

Objectives

In applying these principles, Main Roads aims to:

- Fully satisfy all environmental legislation, Government Policy and, where specific legislation is lacking, uphold the spirit of the law;
- Implement, maintain and continually improve an effective environmental management system across Main Roads planning, business, project and management processes;
- Apply an approach of "avoid, minimise and mitigate", in order of preference, to the management of environmental impacts associated with road construction projects;
- Develop awareness of environmental management processes, standards and responsibilities among Main Roads' employees and contractor partners;
- Listen and be responsive to community and stakeholder views on environmental issues; and Set specific environmental objectives and targets relating to the key environmental aspects of Main Roads' activities, and measure and report progress in achieving these targets.

**6.4 Has the party taking the action previously referred an action under the EPBC Act, or been responsible for undertaking an action referred under the EPBC Act?****X****Provide name of proposal and EPBC reference number (if known)**

Main Roads has previously referred projects under the EPBC Act including:

- 2013/7091: Mitchell Freeway Extension
- 2010/5793: Realignment of Great Northern Highway, South of Port Hedland
- 2010/5768: Bunbury Port Access Stage 2
- 2010/5617: South Western Highway Reconstruction (Waterloo Road to Hynes Road)
- 2010/5419: Dampier Highway Duplication Stage 2 & 6
- 2010/5384: Gateway WA – Perth Airport and Freight Access project
- 2009/5031: Roe Highway Extension (Kwinana Freeway to Stock Road)
- 2009/4692: Mandurah Entrance Road
- 2007/3515: Intersection of Bussell Highway & Caves Road 2005/213: New Perth Bunbury Highway
- 2003/972: Roe Highway Stage 7 Extension
- 2002/846: Caves Road Turning Pockets
- 2002/781: Translocation of orchids (*Caladenia huegelii*) from Roe Highway Reserve
- 2001/470: Tonkin Highway Extension
- 2001/325: South Western Highway – Wokalup to Brunswick Junction – Upgrade
- 2000/83: Useless Loop Road Upgrade



## 8 Information sources and attachments

(For the information provided above)

### 8.1 References

AECOM (2016), Biological Assessments Toodyay Road Widening Metro and Wheatbelt Regions Biological Surveys, prepared for Main Roads WA, February 2016

Department Environment Regulation (DER) (2006), Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, Swan Coastal Plain. GIS data layer

Department of the Environment (DotE) (2013), Matters of National Environmental Significance, Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.

Department of the Environment (DotE). 2015. Species Profile and Threats Database. Available online at <http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl>. Accessed 2015

Keighery, B. J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Morcombe, M. (2003), Field Guide to Australian Birds. Steve Parish Publishing Pty Ltd: Archerfield, Queensland

Pizzey, G. and Knight, F. (2007), The field guide to the birds of Australia. Harper Collins Publishers: Sydney, Australia.

Van Dyck, S. and Strahan, R. (2008), The Mammals of Australia Third Edition. Reed New Holland: Chatswood, New South Wales.

### 8.2 Reliability and date of information

All information is recent and reliable. A biological assessment was undertaken for the project in spring 2015. Several small areas are outside the assessed area (3.9 ha, 6.7 % of the total project area); the data has been extrapolated for these locations, and vegetated areas are currently being surveyed to confirm these assumptions.

### 8.3 Attachments

		✓ attached	Title of attachment(s)
<b>You must attach</b>	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the project locality (section 1)	✓	Figure 1
	GIS file delineating the boundary of the referral area (section 1)	✓ ✓	Attachment A
	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the location of the project in respect to any matters of national environmental significance or important features of the environments (section 3)	✓	Attachment A shows the location of the biological assessment (larger than the project area)

<b>If relevant, attach</b>	copies of any state or local government approvals and consent conditions (section 2.5)		
	copies of any completed assessments to meet state or local government approvals and outcomes of public consultations, if available (section 2.6)	✓	Attachment A
	copies of any flora and fauna investigations and surveys (section 3)		
	technical reports relevant to the assessment of impacts on protected matters that support the arguments and conclusions in the referral (section 3 and 4)	✓	Attachment A
	report(s) on any public consultations undertaken, including with Indigenous stakeholders (section 3)		Report is being written currently (not attached)

## 9 Contacts, signatures and declarations

**Project title:** Toodyay Road Widening

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### 9.1 Person proposing to take action

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Name and Title  | Ardeshir Bahmani Project Manager     |
| 2. Organisation  | Main Roads WA                        |
| 3. EPBC Referral Number  |                                      |
| 4. ACN / ABN   | ABN: 50 860 676 021                  |
| 5. Postal address  | PO Box 333<br>Northam WA 6401        |
| 6. Telephone:  | (08) 9622 4764                       |
| 7. Email:  | Ardeshir.bahmani@mainroads.wa.gov.au |
| 8. Name of designated proponent (if not the same person at item 1 above)           |                                      |
| 9. ACN/ABN of designated proponent (if not the same person named at item 1 above): |                                      |

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU QUALIFY FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE FEE(S) THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE PAYABLE**

☐ an individual; OR

I qualify for exemption from fees under section 520(4C)(e)(v) of the EPBC Act because I am:

☐ a small business entity (within the meaning given by section 328-110 (other than subsection 328-119(4)) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*); OR

☐ not applicable.

If you are small business entity you must provide the Date/Income Year that you became a small business entity:

**Note: You must advise the Department within 10 business days if you cease to be a small business entity. Failure to notify the Secretary of this is an offence punishable on conviction by a fine (regulation 5.23B(3) *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000 (Cth)*).**

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO APPLY FOR A WAIVER**

I would like to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under Schedule 1, 5.21A of the [EPBC Regulations](#). Under sub regulation 5.21A(5), you

X not applicable.

must include information about the applicant (if not you) the grounds on which the waiver is sought and the reasons why it should be made:

Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.

I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

I agree to be the proponent for this action.

I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf of or for the benefit of any other person or entity.

Signature




Date 4/03/2016

**9.2 Person preparing the referral information (if different from 9.1)**

Name Rochelle Lupton  
Title Environment Officer  
Organisation Main Roads WA  
ACN / ABN (if applicable) ABN: 50 860 676 021  
Postal address PO Box 333  
Northam WA 6401  
Telephone (08) 9323 4012  
Email Rochelle.lupton@mainroads.wa.gov.au

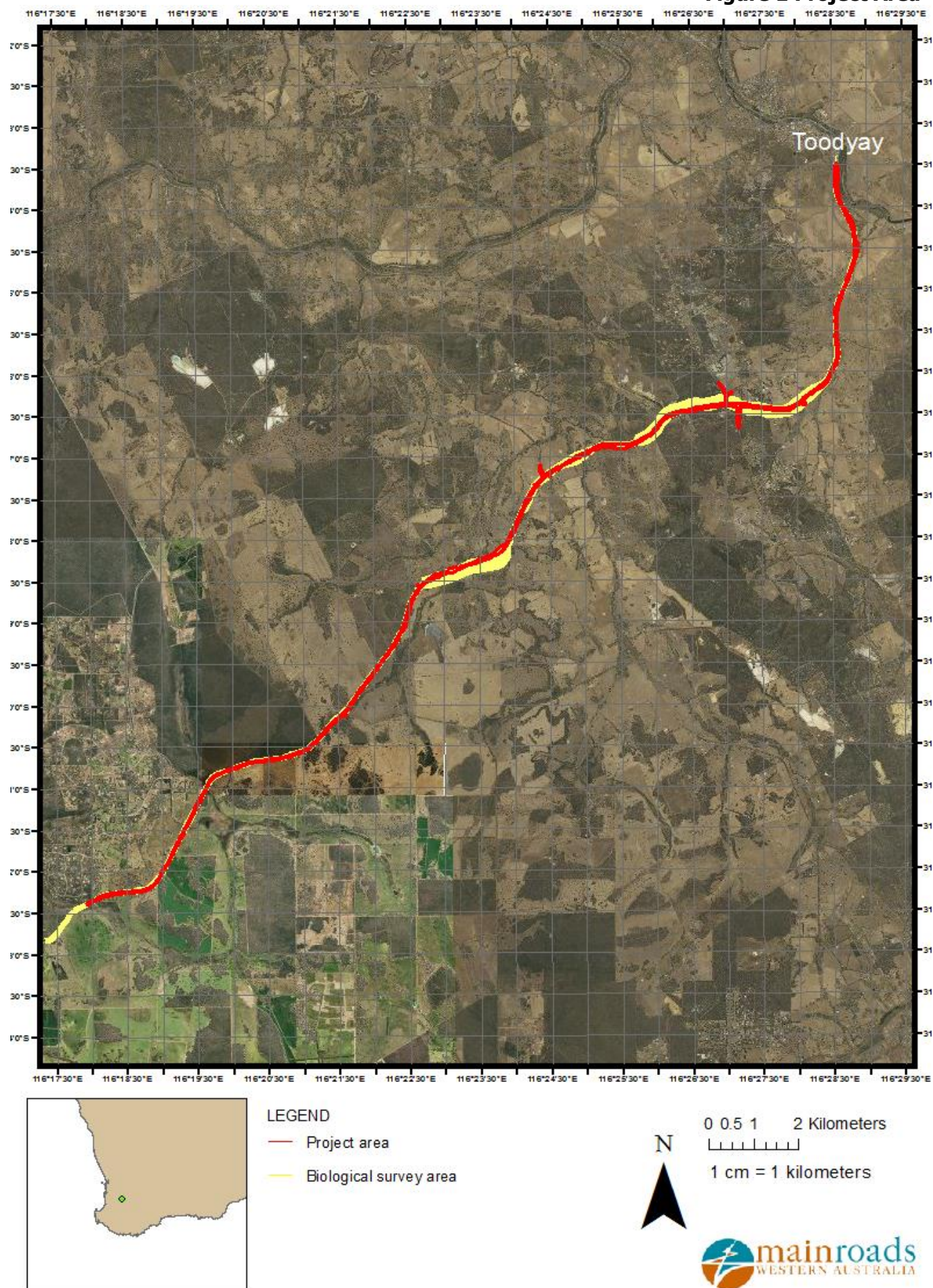
Declaration I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.  
I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

Signature  Date 1/3/2016

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**Figure 1 Project Area**



**AECOM 2016 Toodyay Road Widening Biological Assessment**